



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TWO KANSAS RESIDENTS CHARGED WITH VOTE FRAUD**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Kansas residents were charged in federal court today, in separate and unrelated cases, with voting in federal elections in both Kansas and Missouri.

**James D. Scherzer**, 68, of Kansas City, Kan., and **Lorraine E. Goodrich**, 39, of Prairie Village, Kan., were each charged separately with giving false residency information in order to vote in the Nov. 5, 2002, general election in Missouri in two federal criminal complaints filed in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo., this morning.

“Double voting undermines the integrity of elections,” Graves said. “Voting is the cornerstone of democracy and we will do everything in our power to protect the ballot box from fraudulent manipulation. These charges should send a clear message that we will vigorously investigate and prosecute double voting and all other election fraud.”

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint against **Scherzer**, he also voted in both Kansas and Missouri in three earlier elections in 2000 and 2002 – the Aug. 6, 2002, primary election; the Nov. 7, 2000, general election; and the Aug. 8, 2000, primary election. In each of the four instances, the affidavit alleges, **Scherzer** voted at a Kansas City, Mo., polling place after signing and initialing a roster certifying that he resided at 124 Van Brunt Blvd. in Kansas City, Mo. The affidavit alleges that **Scherzer**, who actually resided at 1016 Tenny Ave. in Kansas City, Kan., had already voted in each of those elections at a Kansas City, Kan. polling place.

According to the affidavit, **Scherzer** obtained a Kansas driver's license issued Aug. 30, 2000, on which he listed an address of 1016 Tenny Ave. in Kansas City, Kan. **Scherzer** also allegedly obtained a Missouri driver's license, issued Sept. 5, 2002, on which he listed an address of 124 Van Brunt Blvd. in Kansas City, Mo. According to the affidavit, **Scherzer** obtained a

Missouri vehicle license for a 1997 Ford, utilizing the Missouri address.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint against **Goodrich**, she voted at a Kansas City, Mo., polling place on Nov. 5, 2002, after signing and initialing a roster certifying that she resided at 912 Baltimore Ave. in Kansas City, Mo. The affidavit alleges that **Goodrich**, who actually resided at 4040 West 63<sup>rd</sup> St. in Prairie Village, Kan., had already voted in the election at a Johnson County, Kan. polling place.

**Goodrich** was the owner of Food Staff Specialists, LLC, which had a business address of 912 Baltimore Ave. in Kansas City, Mo., but is no longer located at that address.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the complaints are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Daniel Stewart. They were investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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